

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 299

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to commend Senator Mike Walker for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity, and whose efforts to ensure competent and efficient public service have brought immeasurable benefits to their respective communities and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Senator Mike Walker is one such distinguished public servant who served his constituency and this legislative body with honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, appointed by the Fentress County Commission to fill temporarily the unexpired term of his predecessor, Mike Walker made tremendous personal and business sacrifices to selflessly represent the people of the 12th Senatorial District and ensure their voice would be heard in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Fentress County, Senator Walker was Valedictorian of his graduating class at Clarkrange High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors and a Bachelor of Science degree with honors at the University of Tennessee; he received his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the University of Tennessee and practices law with his own firm, Michael A. Walker & Associates; he is also a Licensed General Contractor; and

WHEREAS, Senator Walker has previously served his community well as a member of the Upper Cumberland Development District, the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency, and the LBJ&C Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, his accomplishments also include being a former National Football League agent, a very successful multiplatinum music publisher and a founder of the Highway 127 Corridor "World's Longest Outdoor Sale" in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Mike Walker's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, his compassion for his fellow Tennesseans is evidenced by the legislation he successfully sponsored to regulate the use and demonstration of pyrotechnic devices and legislation to assist injured workers in obtaining benefits; and

WHEREAS, Senator Walker has made quite an impact in Nashville during his short time on Capitol Hill by seconding motions on the Senate floor, bringing award-winning songwriters to the Senate and by teaching all his guests how to throw a good party; and

WHEREAS, his attention to constituent correspondence by personally editing and drafting responses at his secretary's desk was indicative of his dedication to his position and he was ably assisted during his stay in Nashville by his dedicated office staff, Jami Mayberry and Philip Patterson; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as Senator, Mike Walker has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mike Walker is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mike Walker is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Stacy Talbott Walker, and their two children, John and Ambria; and

WHEREAS, Mike Walker is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State", and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Senator Mike Walker for his estimable service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, thank him for his tireless work in service of the good people of Senate District 12, and commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of this State's citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend to Senator Walker our best wishes for much success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.